Senate File 312 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 312
BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 9)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act concerning registration plates issued for business-trade
- 2 trucks and special trucks, and including applicability date
- 3 provisions.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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- 1 Section 1. Section 321.120, subsection 3, Code 2011, is
- 2 amended to read as follows:
- 3. Upon approval of the application and payment of
- 4 the proper fees, the county treasurer shall issue regular
- 5 registration plates for the vehicle which distinguish the
- 6 vehicle as a business-trade truck. The department may adopt
- 7 rules requiring the use of a sticker or other means to identify
- 8 motor vehicles registered under this section.
- 9 Sec. 2. Section 321.121, Code 2011, is amended by adding the
- 10 following new subsection:
- 11 NEW SUBSECTION. 1A. Upon approval of the application
- 12 and payment of the proper fees, the county treasurer shall
- 13 issue regular registration plates for the special truck. The
- 14 department may adopt rules requiring the use of a sticker or
- 15 other means to identify motor vehicles registered under this
- 16 section.
- 17 Sec. 3. PHASED-IN ELIMINATION OF BUSINESS-TRADE TRUCK AND
- 18 SPECIAL TRUCK PLATES.
- 19 1. It is the intent of the general assembly that the owners
- 20 of business-trade trucks and special trucks have access to
- 21 any of the specialty registration plates issued under section
- 22 321.34 under the same terms and conditions that apply to owners
- 23 of other motor vehicles under that section.
- 24 2. By January 1, 2012, the department of transportation
- 25 shall discontinue the practice of issuing business-trade truck
- 26 registration plates and special truck registration plates,
- 27 and shall instead provide regular registration plates for new
- 28 business-trade truck and special truck registrations. Current
- 29 requirements and fees for business-trade truck and special
- 30 truck registrations continue to apply. In conjunction with the
- 31 transition to the issuance of regular registration plates for
- 32 business-trade and special trucks, the following registration
- 33 practices shall apply:
- 34 a. Except as provided in paragraph "b", current owners of
- 35 vehicles with business-trade or special truck plates shall

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- 1 continue to use those plates until ownership of the vehicle is
- 2 transferred or until a new series of Iowa registration plates
- 3 is issued by the department of transportation.
- 4 b. The owner of a motor vehicle with current business-trade
- 5 truck plates or special truck plates may elect to be issued
- 6 specialty plates in lieu of the current registration plates for
- 7 the vehicle, subject to the terms and conditions applicable
- 8 under section 321.34.
- 9 c. The owner of a motor vehicle being registered for the
- 10 first time as a business-trade truck or special truck may elect
- 11 to be issued specialty plates in lieu of regular registration
- 12 plates, subject to the terms and conditions applicable under
- 13 section 321.34.
- 14 Sec. 4. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies for registration
- 15 plates issued during registration periods beginning on or after
- 16 January 1, 2012.
- 17 EXPLANATION
- 18 Under current law, a motor truck that qualifies for
- 19 business-trade truck registration fees or special truck
- 20 registration fees is issued registration plates which
- 21 are specially designed to distinguish the vehicle as a
- 22 business-trade truck or a special truck. As a consequence
- 23 of this requirement, the owner of a business-trade truck
- 24 or special truck for farm use is not eligible for any of
- 25 the special registration plates for which the owner might
- 26 otherwise qualify. This bill provides the option of applying
- 27 for specialty plates for trucks with business-trade or special
- 28 truck registrations.
- 29 The bill requires the department of transportation to
- 30 discontinue the issuance of business-trade and special truck
- 31 registration plates with a distinguishing design on or before
- 32 January 1, 2012. The department may provide by rule for
- 33 another means of identifying business-trade trucks and special
- 34 trucks for enforcement purposes.
- 35 Under the bill, most current owners of trucks which have

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- 1 already been issued business-trade or special truck plates
- 2 shall continue to use those plates until ownership transfers or
- 3 the department of transportation issues a new series of Iowa
- 4 registration plates. However, an owner may elect to trade
- 5 current business-trade or special truck plates for any of the
- 6 specialty plates for which the owner qualifies, subject to the
- 7 additional fees applicable for the specialty plates. An owner
- 8 who applies for a new registration of a business-trade truck or
- 9 special truck will have the option to choose specialty plates
- 10 or be issued regular registration plates.
- 11 Current requirements and fees for business-trade and special
- 12 truck registrations are not affected by the bill. The bill
- 13 is applicable for plates issued during registration periods
- 14 beginning on or after January 1, 2012.